

## Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /111 W

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R 202356Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9335

INFO AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ UNN

AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA UNN

AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO UNN

AMCONSUL MATAMOROS UNN

AMCONSUL MAZATLAN UNN

AMCONSUL MERIDA UNN

AMCONSUL MONTERREY UNN

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO UNN

AMCONSUL TIJUANA UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 9548

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR/MX

SUBJECT: MISSION MONTHLY NARCOTICS REVIEW FOR NOVEMBER, 1973

1. SUMMARY: NOVEMBER MARKED A RELATIVELY LESS ACTIVE MONTH, A PERIOD OF MUCH BEHIND-THE-SCENES PREPARATION FOR DECEMBER'S CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY IN THE NARCOTICS CONTROL FIELD. OF INTEREST WERE A NUMBER OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS INDICATING MEXICAN OFFICIALDOM'S CONTINUING PREOCCUPATION WITH THE DOMESTIC DRUG PROBLEM. WORK CONTINUED ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY AND THE CUSTOMS-TO-CUSTOMS RADIO TURNOVER. MEXICAN PILOTS BEGAN TRAINING IN THE BELL 212 HELICOPTER, FOUR OF WHICH WOULD BE GIVEN TO GOM IN EARLY DECEMBER. SEIZURES OF HEROIN AND COCAINE WERE UP IN NOVEMBER, 23 AND 13 KGS. RESPECTIVELY. END SUMMARY.

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2. EMBASSY AND GOM ACTIVITIES:

(A) AGAIN THIS MONTH A SERIES OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS BY GOM OFFICIALS POINTED UP THE INCREASING SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH MEXICO IS COMING TO VIEW HER INTERNAL DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM:

(1) SECRETARY OF HEALTH JIMENEZ CANTU STATED THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF MEXICAN YOUTH IS NOT INVOLVED IN DRUG ABUSE, AND THAT THE MOST PROMISING WAY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM LIES IN THE HELP THAT NON-ADDICTED YOUNG PEOPLE CAN GIVE TO THEIR LESS FORTUNATE PEERS.

(2) IT WAS ANNOUNCED BY SCHOOL OFFICIALS THAT THE NATIONAL POLITECHNIC INSTITUTE HAS ORGANIZED A CRUSADE AGAINST DRUG ADDICTION.

(3) MEXICAN CENTER FOR STUDIES IN DRUG DEPENDENCY (CEMEF) DIRECTOR, DR. GUIDO BELSASSO, STATED THAT DRUG ADDICTION WAS PARTICULARLY BAD IN THE NORTHERN MEXICAN STATES BORDERING THE US, AND EMPHASIZED THAT THIS INCLUDED ADDICTION TO HARD NARCOTICS.

(4) THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DRUG DEPENDENCY PROBLEMS MARKED ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY WITH PRESS PUBLICITY DESCRIBING ITS CREATION AND ORGANIZATION. A COORDINATING AND ADVISORY GROUP ROUGHLY ANALOGOUS TO THE (U.S.) PRESIDENT'S DOMESTIC COUNCIL, THE NATIONAL COUNCIL IS HEADED BY HEALTH SECRETARY JIMENEZ CANTU AND PARTICIPATED IN BY REPRESENTATIVES OF GOBERNACION, FOREIGN RELATIONS AND EDUCATION SECRETARIATS, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, THE FEDERAL DISTRICT, SOCIAL SECURITY, CEMEF, THE PRI YOUTH SECTOR AND VARIOUS ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS.

(5) THE REGENT (MAYOR) OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT STATED THAT THERE ARE PERHAPS 200,000 DRUG ADDICTS IN MEXICO CITY, AND ORDERED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FOUNDATION TO COMBAT DRUG ADDICTION IN THE CAPITAL. (COMMENT: IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT "DRUG ADDICTION" IN THE MEXICAN CONTEXT REFERS LARGELY TO THE USE OF MARIJUANA AND INHALANTS, AND SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH THE MORE RESTRICTED U.S. USAGE.)

(B) DEA (WASHINGTON) CHEMIST BENJAMIN PERILLO MET WITH DR. ARMANDO BEJERANO, DIRECTOR OF THE MEXICAN OFFICE OF FOOD, BEVERAGES AND DRUG CONTROL TO DISCUSS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW LABORATORIES TO TEST DANGEROUS DRUGS.

(C) AS OF THE END OF NOVEMBER, THERE WERE 400  
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US CITIZENS IN MEXICAN PRISONS. OF THESE, 329 HAD BEEN CHARGED WITH NARCOTICS OFFENSES. (THIS MARKED A SLIGHT DECREASE FROM THE PREVIOUS MONTH.)

(D) A GROUP OF DEA INTELLIGENCE SPECIALISTS, IN MEXICO ON TDY STATUS, HAVE BEEN WORKING ON REORGANIZATION OF DEA FILES IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A CENTRAL NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE FILE IN THE EMBASSY.

(E) MEXICAN HELICOPTER PILOTS WENT TO FT. WORTH

FOR TRAINING IN THE FOUR BELL 212 HELICOPTERS, SCHEDULED  
FOR TURNOVER TO THE GOM IN EARLY DECEMBER.

3. GOM ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

(A) WITH US AUTHORITIES

120 GMS, COCAINE AND 90 GMS. HEROIN SEIZED  
IN SAN LUIS RIO COLORADO, SONORA.

270 GMS. HEROIN AND 20 GMS. COCAINE SEIZED  
IN SAN LUIS RIO COLORADO, SONORA.

IN JOINT TASK-FORCE OPERATION IN TIJUANA AREA,  
MFJP SPECIAL TEAM AND DEA AGENTS SEIZED 4 TONS MARIJUANA,  
5 VEHICLES, 2 AIRCRAFT AND ONE YACHT. THREE US CITIZENS  
AND 6 MEXICAN NATIONALS ARRESTED; SEVERAL OTHERS BEING  
SOUGHT.

5 KGS. OF BROWN HEROIN SEIZED ON TRAIN EN  
ROUTE FROM GUADALAJARA TO NOGALES.

2 KGS., 590 GMS. OF BROWN HEROIN AND 2 KGS.,  
180 GMS. OF COCAINE SEIZED ON TRAIN EN ROUTE FROM  
GUADALAJARA TO NOGALES.

5600 LBS. MARIJUANA, 2 PICK-UP TRUCKS, ONE  
AUTOMOBILE AND 2 MACHINE GUNS SEIZED IN REYNOSA.

3 KGS. OF BROWN HEROIN SEIZED AT SAN LUIS  
RIO COLORADO, SONORA.

9 TONS OF MARIJUANA WERE SEIZED IN ACAPULCO.

(B) INDEPENDENT MEXICAN OPERATIONS

ONE-HALF KG. COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY  
AIRPORT.

ONE MFJP AGENT AND TWO MARIJUANA TRAFFICKERS  
WERE KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED IN A SHOOT-OUT NEAR MAZATLAN.  
12 TRAFFICKERS WERE CAPTURED. PRESS REPORTS THIS AS 15TH  
MFJP AGENT KILLED IN LITTLE OVER ONE YEAR. THIS AT VARIANCE  
WITH MFJP INFORMATION WHICH INDICATES 11 KILLED IN ABOUT TWO  
YEARS.

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ONE KG. COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY  
AIRPORT.

9 KGS. COCAINE SEIZED IN CHIHUAHUA; THE  
SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION RESULTED IN 11 ARRESTS, THUS  
BREAKING UP INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION  
COMPOSED OF HONDURAN, ARGENTINE, COLOMBIAN, SALVADORAN  
AND MEXICAN NATIONALS.

2 KGS. OF COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY  
AIRPORT (CARRIED BY CANADIAN COUPLE AND ENGLISH NATIONAL,  
RESPECTIVELY).

340 GMS. OF HEROIN AND COCAINE SEIZED ON  
GUADALAJARA/NOGALES TRAIN.

TOTALS FOR MONTH:

23 KGS., 399 GMS, COCAINE

12 KGS, 635 GMS. HEROIN  
250 GMS. HASHISH  
774 GMS. OPIUM  
28 FOREIGNERS, 223 MEXICANS ARRESTED  
1 MFJP AGENT, 4 SOLDIERS KILLED, 6 SOLDIERS  
WOUNDED.  
MCBRIDE

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